CLAIMS

1. Use of:

   a) at least one herb extract from the genus Equisetum,

   b) at least one film forming agent;

for the preparation of a topical composition for the treatment of Onychoschizia

2. Use according to claim 1, wherein said composition comprises c) at least one physiologically acceptable carrier.

3. Use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein said composition comprises d) at least one sulfur donor.

4. Use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the component a) is selected from: Equisetum arvense in form of plant or part of plant, juice, dry extract, alcoholic extract, hydro alcoholic extract or glycolic extract, or Equisetum hiemale in form of plant or part of plant, juice, dry extract, alcoholic extract, hydro alcoholic extract or glycolic extract.

5. Use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the component a) is a glycolic extract of Equisetum arvense.

6. Use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein component b) is a water-soluble film forming agent.

7. Use according to claim 6, wherein said water-soluble film forming agent is a derivative of chitosan.

8. Use according to claim 7 wherein said derivative of chitosan is selected from hydroxyalkyl chitosans and/or carboxyalkyl chitosans.

9. Use according to claim 8 wherein said hydroxyalkyl chitosans are selected from chitosans which are derivatized with C_{1-6} alkyl groups possessing 1 to 3 hydroxy groups, preferably hydroxypropyl chitosan.

10. Use according to claim 8 wherein said carboxyalkyl chitosans are selected from chitosans which are derivatized with C_{1-6} alkyl groups possessing 1 to 3 hydroxy groups, preferably carboxymethyl chitosan.

11. Use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the component c) is water or a mixture of water with at least one co-solvent.

12. Use according to claim 11, wherein said co-solvent is an alcohol.

13. Use according to claim 12, wherein said alcohol is a branched or linear alcohol having 1 to 3 hydroxy groups and 2 to 6 carbon atoms, preferably ethanol, 1-propanol and/or isopropanol.

14. Use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the component d) is selected from sulphated amino acids and derivatives thereof, l-methionine, l-cysteine, l-cystine, taurine, 4-thiazolidinecarboxylic acid and/or methylsulphonylmethane.

15. Use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein said composition comprises penetration enhancers, sedimentation retarders, chelating agents, antioxidants, silicates, aroma substances, wetting agents, lanolin derivates, light stabilizers and/or antibacterial substances.

16. Use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein said composition comprises an additional active agent selected from antimycotic agents, antibiotic

agents, anti-inflammatory agents, antiseptic agents and/or local anaesthetic agents.

17. Use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the component a) is present in an amount of 0.1 to 15 wt.%, preferably 0.3 to 15 wt.%, more preferably 0.5 to 10 wt.% by weight of the total composition.

18. Use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the component b) is present in an amount of 0.1 to 10 wt.%, preferably 0.3 to 8 wt.%, more preferably 0.5 to 5 wt.% by weight of the total composition.

19. Use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the component c) is present in an amount of 40 to 99.8 wt.%, preferably 60 to 99 wt.%, more preferably 80 to 95 wt.% by weight of the total composition.

20. Use according to claim 19, wherein the water content in component c) is 15 to 70 wt.%, preferably 30 to 65 wt.% by weight of component c).

21. Use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the component d) is present in an amount from 0.1 to 20 wt.%, preferably from 0.2 to 10 wt.% by weight of the total composition.

22. Use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein said composition essentially consists of:

a) at least one herb extract from the genus Equisetum,

b) at least one film forming agent,

c) at least one physiologically acceptable carrier,

d) at least one sulfur donor.

23. Use of the composition according to any of the preceding claims as a nail topical formulation.